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THE HISTORY OF ENGLISH BALLADRY. By Frank Egbert Bryant. Boston: The Gorham Press.

This is a collection of essays by the late Professor Bryant of the University of Kansas, whose untimely death cut short his work at the very beginning of his career. Though his study of the ballad is a mere preliminary historical sketch, extending through the reign of Elizabeth and designed as an introduction to a comprehensive work on the whole subject, it gives evidence of critical judgment and sound scholarship. It covers a field that has not been sufficiently investigated, and the results attained lead us to regret that Professor Bryant did not live to complete his original design. Besides the title essay, the volume contains an analysis of Lessing's theories in the *Laocoon* (a study which won the praise of German critics); "On the Conservation of Language in a New Country"; some comments on lines in *Beowulf*; a translation of the *Thrymskviða* in alliterative form,—all papers exhibiting originality of thought and freshness of treatment.

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THE HOME BOOK OF VERSE FOR YOUNG FOLKS. Selected and arranged by Burton E. Stevenson. Decorations by Willy Pogany. New York: Henry Holt & Company.

This volume of more than five hundred pages, handsomely bound in blue and gold and artistically decorated by Pogany, contains four hundred and twenty-five verses and poems judiciously selected and skilfully arranged so as to suit the varying tastes of children from the nursery to the college. The poems are arranged in the following groups: In the Nursery, The Duty of Children, Rhymes of Childhood, Just Nonsense, Fairy Land, The Glad Evangel, The Wonderful World, Studies in Rhyme, My Country, The Happy Warrior, Life Lessons, A Garland of Gold. In the Index is given the date of birth and death of each author, and the list of authors extends from the time of Shakespeare to the present day. Such a book, so comprehensive in its range and so complete and thorough in its choice of genuinely good verse, ought to find a place in every household.